

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Office of Fire and Aviation  
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October 2, 2002

In Reply Refer To:  
1770 (FA-110) P

EMS Transmission 10/03/02  
Information Bulletin No. OF&A 2003-002

To: All Field Offices  
  
From: Director, Office of Fire and Aviation  
  
Subject: 3<sup>rd</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference

The Office of Fire and Aviation would like to announce the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference and Exhibit which will be held in Sydney, Australia, October 3-6, 2003. The conference is hosted by the Australasian Fire Authorities Council with sponsorship by the North American Forestry Commission Fire Management Working Group. The theme of the conference is *"Urban and Rural Communities Living in Fire Prone Environments: Managing the Future of Global Problems."* The conference will present a unique opportunity to learn about and discuss global fire management problems and solutions with individuals and groups from around the world. This conference is a follow up to the successful 2<sup>nd</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference held in Vancouver, B.C. in 1997.

The Bureau is now involved in a wide range of fire and resource management issues as a result of the National Fire Plan, the President's Healthy Forests Initiative, and two severe fire seasons in the past three years. This conference will help validate the process and methods that we are currently using to solve our wildland fire management problems in the U.S. It will also serve as a catalyst for new ideas for approaching similar issues faced by fire managers in many other countries. We are not only encouraging Bureau attendance at this important conference but also seeking involvement through participation as presenters. The call for papers is out and the deadline for submission is November 30, 2002. We encourage the submission of abstracts from a cross section of fire and resource managers with high visibility programmatic responsibilities; to on-the-ground fire and resource specialists who are making these programs succeed. The submissions should be made in one of the following three conference themes:

- Balancing Conflicts
- Future Trends and Their Influence on Fire Management
- Enhancing Global Understanding and Cooperation

Authors will be advised by March 28, 2003, if their abstracts were accepted. The Office of Fire and Aviation will provide financial assistance to all individuals who have papers accepted. For more details on the conference and details for submission of abstracts, please visit: [www.wildlandfire03.com](http://www.wildlandfire03.com).

As we get closer to the conference dates, I will be providing updated information on the conference. If you have any questions or comments please call Tom Frey at (208) 387-5167, [tom\\_frey@nifc.blm.gov](mailto:tom_frey@nifc.blm.gov) or Connie Lewis at (208) 387-5354, [connie\\_lewis@nifc.blm.gov](mailto:connie_lewis@nifc.blm.gov) at the Office of Fire and Aviation's International Program Office. They will be working with you and the Bureau's International Program to coordinate approvals and attendance for the conference.

Signed by:

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Director, Office of Fire and Aviation

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